

2018-09-25 Linear vs Nonlinear ODEs

(2.4)

Existence and Uniqueness

Consider the problem

$$y' = t + \sqrt{y - \pi}$$

$$y(1) = 4$$

Q1. Is there a unique solution? YES.

$f(t, y) = t + \sqrt{y - \pi}$ continuous for all t , for $y \geq \pi$ (from the theorem)

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(t, y) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y - \pi}}$ continuous for all t , for $y > \pi$ (from the theorem)

Q2. Without solving, what is its domain?

continuous for all t , for $y \geq \pi$ for $f(t, y)$

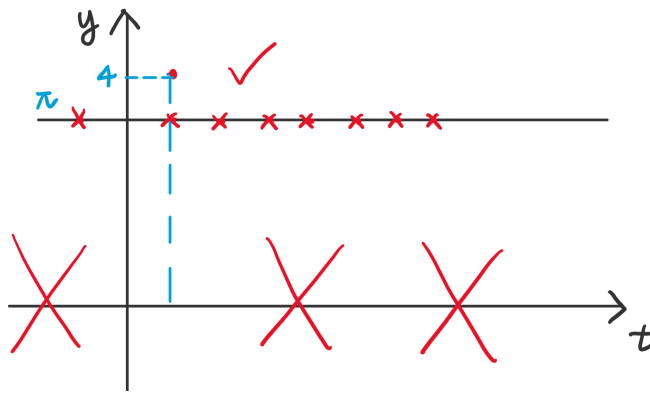
continuous for all t , for $y > \pi$ for $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(t, y)$

* Initial condition: a solution that passes through the point;

The uniqueness is only guaranteed around the initial value (a, b) , need to solve the DE for more information like for how long or till where.

What if the solution was continuous for $y \geq \pi$ (solution stops at $y = \pi$) and our given point was $(1, \pi)$? Can we still confirm existence and uniqueness?

No! The given point AND the points around it must be differentiable



Consider the problem (not discussed in class)

$$y' = \sqrt{4 - (t^2 + y^2)}$$

$$y(1) = 1$$

Q3. Is there a unique solution?

If $f(t, y)$ is differentiable at $(1, 1)$, then $f(t, y)$ must also be continuous at $(1, 1)$.

Since y' exists at $(1, 1)$, $f(t, y)$ is continuous at $(1, 1)$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(t, y) = -\frac{2y}{\sqrt{4 - t^2 - y^2}}$$

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(t, y)$ is also continuous near $(1, 1)$

This satisfies the conditions of the Existence and Uniqueness for Nonlinear Differential Equations Theorem. Therefore, there is a unique solution.

Q4. Without solving, what is its domain?

$f(t, y)$ is continuous for $y \leq \sqrt{4 - t^2}$ and $-2 \leq t \leq 2$

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(t, y)$ is continuous for $y < \sqrt{4 - t^2}$ and $-2 < t < 2$

The Initial-Value Problem

The equations:

$$y' = -\frac{x}{y}$$

$$y\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

Have the solutions $y_1 = \cos(\arcsin(x))$ and $y_2 = \sqrt{1-x^2}$

- Does the problem satisfy the conditions of the Theorem?

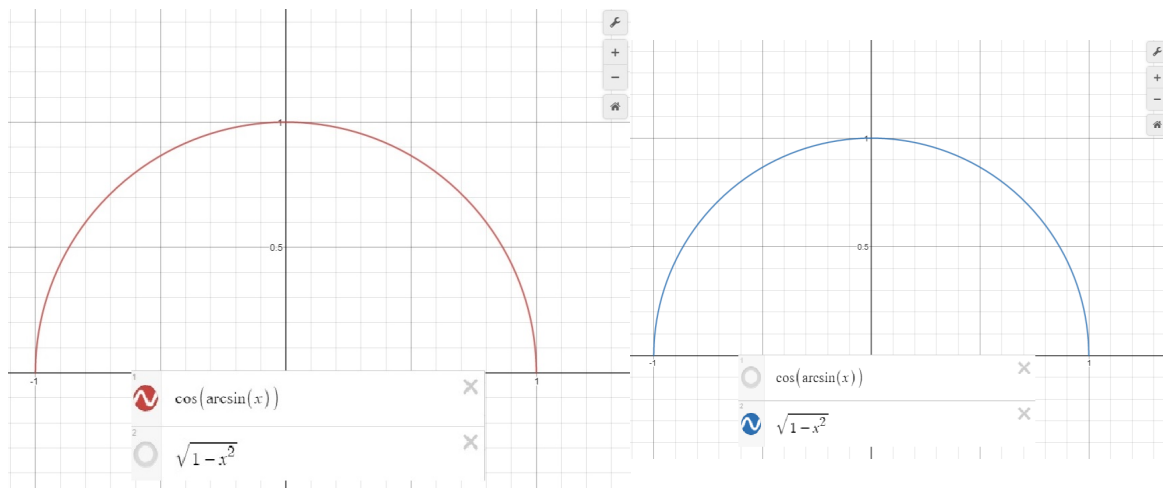
- YES. $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(t, y) = \frac{x}{y^2}$, which is continuous near $\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$
- In the initial value, Y is not 0 so this is continuous -- the condition is satisfied.

- What can you conclude?

You can conclude that there is one unique solution because the partial derivative is continuous near the initial value. Thus, we can conclude that these 2 solutions must be identical.

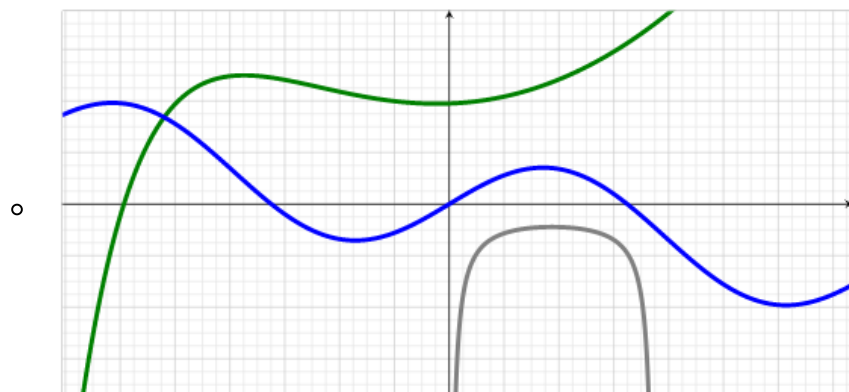
$$\Rightarrow y_1(x) = y_2(x)$$

Woah, they have the same graph! :D



Consider the problem $y' = f(t, y)$ where $f(t, y)$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(t, y)$ are continuous for all t, y .

- (graph shown)



- **Could this be the graph of 3 solutions with 3 different initial conditions?**
 - No, this can not be--The theorem says that for any given point, only 1 solution curve can pass through it. Meaning: none of the solutions of a DE can intersect. In this graph, two of the solutions overlap and therefore when the initial value is set to be the intersection, they will not be unique.

• **Theorem (Existence and Uniqueness for Nonlinear DEs):**

- Given $y' = f(t, y)$ with $y(t_0) = y_0$

If $f(t, y)$ and $\frac{df}{dy}(t, y)$ are continuous near (t_0, y_0)

then there is one unique solution $y = \phi(t)$ defined for t near t_0 .

- ◦ **Unique definition:** there is only one function that satisfies the function and the initial value that is given.
- The theorem only works when the function is continuous around the point (initial value), not just continuous at that point.
- We can only conclude from the theorem that if a function satisfies the initial value theorem, then there is a unique solution; if not, we don't know anything about the solution.